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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/588,069	04/23/2007	Ronald Kenneth Russell	1096-002US01	3721
28863	7590	11/20/2009		
SHUMAKER & SIEFFERT, P. A. 1625 RADIO DRIVE SUITE 300 WOODBURY, MN 55125			EXAMINER	
			KERSHTEYN, IGOR	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3745	
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
11/20/2009		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

[pairdocketing@ssiplaw.com](mailto:pairdocketing@ssiplaw.com)

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/588,069	<b>Applicant(s)</b> RUSSELL, RONALD KENNETH
	<b>Examiner</b> Igor Kershteyn	<b>Art Unit</b> 3745

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 January 2005.

2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 4-22 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 28 July 2006 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement (PTO-1448)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/04/2006, 02/06/2009

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date: \_\_\_\_\_

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Objections***

Claims 4-22 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim *cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim*. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims 4-22 have not been further treated on the merits.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent Publication No. 20030161722A1.

In figures 1-4a, '722 teaches an electric fan comprising a housing body 12, a front cover 15 defining a fluid inlet 1 to the housing and a rear fluid outlet 5 aligned with said fluid inlet, a motor 7 and impeller 2 mounted within the housing between said inlet and outlet for drawing fluid into the housing in a direction from said inlet towards said outlet within the housing in an outwardly radially direction before exiting via the outlet, the front cover being moveable relative to the housing to allow access to the impeller

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and motor (See page 5, lines 26-29), wherein the front cover is removable from the housing body.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent Publication No. 20030161722A1 in view of US Patent Publication NO. 20030206801A1.

'722 teaches all the claimed subject matter except that he doesn't teach the removal of the front cover effects isolation of the motor to prevent the fan working in an unguarded state.

'801, in figures 1-5, teaches a fan having a front cover 5 and a motor 3, the removal of the front cover effects isolation of the motor to prevent the fan working in an unguarded state.

Since '722 and '801 are analogous art, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the fan of

'722 so the removal of the front cover effects isolation of the motor to prevent the fan working in an unguarded state as taught by '801 for the purpose of preventing injuries.

***Prior Art***

Prior art made of record but not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure and consist of one patent.

Chang (6,183,200) is cited to show a fan having a front cover and a motor but fails to teach the removal of the front cover effects isolation of the motor to prevent the fan working in an unguarded state.

***Contact information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Igor Kershteyn whose telephone number is (571) 272-4817. The examiner can normally be reached on regular.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Look can be reached on (571)2724820. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Igor Kershteyn/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3745

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